

Father at 89 of 16-Pound Boy Is Happy, but Babe's Big 60-Year-Old Brother's Nose Is Out of Joint

"He Isn't Content With What He's Got, and There's No Telling How Many More He'll Be Wanting Before He Dies," Moodily Observes the Displaced Youngest Son.

ANCIENT PAPA HAS HAD FOUR WIVES.

Married the Latest Only Two Years Ago and Proudly Announces That He Practises What Roosevelt Preaches—He and the Baby Alike in That Both Are Toothless.

By Rose C. Tillotson.

And a son was born into him at the age of eighty-nine.

This isn't a Scriptural wonder I am going to tell you about, but an up-to-date phenomenon which might turn green with envy any anti-race sunder of the olden times.

Thomas Ludway, a white-haired old farmer, who lives in the town of Redding Ridge, Conn., is the present day Methuselah who proudly lays claim to the title of the oldest father of the youngest child in America. For, though he is four score and nine and he frankly acknowledges his years, he welcomed the stork to his little yellow cottage early last week.

A sixteen pound boy the bird bestowed upon the ancient farmer, and though he is old he'll venture a guess there isn't a happier father in the universe.

Thomas Ludway wanted a baby. There hadn't been one in his family for many a year. His next youngest child is a venerable infant on the shady side of sixty. The seven-day-old baby is already the uncle of a fifty-year-old nephew, the son of his eldest brother, a white-haired, rheumatic person of seventy odd years.

The new arrival is dreadfully handicapped. He won't have half a chance to get on speaking terms with his family, but I noticed that already they were on spanking terms with the tiny youngster.

White-haired, stoop-shouldered, feeble old men and women are the baby's relatives, and I couldn't help wondering as I stood among them if the stork hadn't experienced an awful shock when he dropped into this home for the aged.

But the surroundings of the Ludway family are conducive to old age, for the frenzy of civilization never reaches their quiet home. Ten miles they are from anywhere; no trains, no phones, no electric lights, and the simple life is the only life known for miles around.

When I drove up to the one-story cottage yesterday afternoon a strenuous person in the rear was vigorously chopping wood. I knocked with the old-fashioned knocker, and a tall, dark woman in stiff pink print opened the door.

Old, but Mighty Spry.

I asked for Mr. Ludway and was told "That's him chopping wood." I explained I wanted the old man, the eighty-nine-year-old father.

"That's Tom chopping wood, miss," the dark-haired woman assured me. "He's pretty old, but he's mighty spry for his age. He ain't so well this morning, but mostly always he goes with the other men to cut wood over at the mill."

"I was asked into a tiny kitchen not much larger than the tabloid version which goes with a Harlem flat, while the woman called the venerable Thomas. He came in with his axe on his shoulder, a small, grizzled old man, wonderfully hale and hearty for his age. His face is weathered and wrinkled with a network of deep-cut lines, and he looks as if he had weathered many a storm on life's troublesome seas. He has a heavy crop of short, snow-white hair, his eyes are blue and exceptionally clear, his step is incisive and quick, and he looks much younger than his oldest son.

When I disclosed the nature of my call he proudly displayed to me the newest addition to his family. "Here he is, sixteen pounds when he was born, and a nice big youngster, too," he said, pulling down the coverlid and exposing to view a weird little object which immediately screwed up its tiny face and let out a lusty bawl.

"There, you've wakened baby," said Mrs. Ludway, the woman in pink print. "He ain't had one, miss, for so long he don't know how to treat them," she confided to me as she rocked the bundle on her knee.

"Well, I had six before this one," her husband answered back, "but it's



been sixty years since we had a baby in the house.

Took a New Wife Two Years Ago.

"I married Mrs. Ludway two years ago, and people tried to make out I was crazy, but I guess I'm just as sane and sound as any one in this neighborhood. It's never too late to love, is it, Mary? I've had experience in love affairs and I ought to know. This is my fourth marriage. Still, one of my wives wasn't my wife, for she had a husband when she married me, and I had that marriage annulled, so I suppose I'm really only three times that I got hitched up."

"I was born in 1819," he continued, pulling out the family Bible to show me the record, "and I guess I've seen more than most men see in their lifetime."

"New York wasn't much more than a village when I was born there, on the corner of Madison and James streets. There used to be lots of room for everybody, and I think it was a whole lot nicer than it is now."

Doesn't He Look Like Me?

"Have you been to New York recently?" I asked, thinking the simple life probably had held him in thrall many years.

"Yes, within the last month," answered the old man. "We went down to buy the fittings for this here youngster. When it's the first in sixty years it calls for celebration, so we wanted to have the best for the little fellow."

"Don't you think he looks like me?" he asked, holding up his latest child. "One thing we've got in common, we ain't either of us got upper teeth."

The baby let out another shriek as

the father made a clumsy attempt to exhibit his pink gums.

"But I'm a strong old fellow," he went on. "Every day I saw and chop wood at the sawmill over yonder, and I'm as good as any of the boys who are a lot younger. I've been through the civil war, from '61 to '65, and I was forty-two when I went to the war with the Forty-sixth New York."

"What do I think is the cause of my good health and prolonged life?" he said, repeating my question. "Country air and simple living and good, hard work."

Country the Place for Children and Old Men.

"The country is the place to raise children and old men. If I had been living in the city I would have been dead long ago. You never heard of a city man living to be eighty-nine and the father of a new-born babe. Yes, I read in The World a few days ago

—we get that paper every week—about an eighty-five-year-old father, but he didn't belong to New York. I'll bet. Anyway, my record is better than his, for I am four years his senior."

"You see, I practice what Roosevelt preaches. I don't believe in that now-fangled race suicide, and I am awfully glad to have this kid after sixty years without one to cheer up the house."

I bade the happy father good-by, and the "next youngest," the sixty-year-old child, accompanied me to the carriage.

"What do you think of your new little brother?" I asked as he hobbled along.

"Aw, he's all right. But the old man's crazy—he's completely off his head," came the surprising reply. "Guess he thinks he's discovered the fountain of youth and intends to bring up another new family. He wants children of graduated sizes and ages. He isn't content with what he's got. This is the fourth time he's been married, and the Lord only knows how many more youngsters he'll have before he dies."

JAMES McGREERY & CO.

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34th Street

On Tuesday, January the 21st.

LADIES' DRESSES. In Both Stores.

Lingerie Princess Dresses, Made of Mull and Batiste. Trimmed with valenciennes lace.....15.00 and 24.50
Messaline Dresses, Two-piece or Princess model. Suitable for afternoon or evening wear.....32.50 and 39.50
former price 45.00 to 55.00

ART NEEDLEWORK DEP'TS. In Both Stores.

Sale of Stamped Shirtwaists and Underwear. New designs in sets to match.

On Imported Nainsook.

Night Gowns.....75c
Chemises.....48c
Drawers.....40c
Corset Covers.....20c
Shirtwaists, on fine linen.....1.45

500 hand-embroidered Linen Centre Pieces and D'Oyleys.
6, 8 and 10 inch.....20c, 30c and 40c
16, 22 and 30 inch.....1.00, 2.25 and 2.75

CORSETS. In Both Stores.

Sale of Augustine Corsets at greatly reduced prices.

Made of fine Coutil with medium high bust and long deep back. Model for average figure. Front and side supporters.....95c
usual price 2.50

Model for average and slender figures. Supporters attached. Made of fine imported mercerized Batiste.....1.45
usual price 3.00

Models of Imported Coutil for every type of figure. With long deep back and hips for well developed figures. Model for slender figure, with front and side supporters.....1.85
usual price 2.50 to 3.50

Model designed for well developed figure. Front and side supporters. Made of Imported Coutil.....2.45
usual price 6.00

Model for slender figure, made of fancy Silk Broche and Batiste.....2.85
usual price 5.00

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On Tuesday and Wednesday, January the 21st and 22nd.

CHINA DEPARTMENTS. In Both Stores.

Dinner Sets.

American Porcelain. 100 pieces...7.50
Austrian China. 100 pieces.....15.00
French Limoges China. 100 pieces, 17.50
Haviland China. Full gold edge. New decoration.....28.00
French China, open stock. With full flat gold edge and pink rosebud pattern 100 pieces.....36.00
China Cups and Saucers, Ramikins and Plates.....2.50 doz.
English China Plates, Cups and Saucers. 1.00 doz.

Cut Glass.

Mayonnaise Bowl and Plates.....2.50
Sugar and Cream Sets. Extra large size. 2.50
Nappies, with or without handles...75c
2 1/2 pint Jugs. New cutting.....3.00
8 inch Bowls, new designs.....2.00

UPHOLSTERY DEP'TS. In Both Stores.

Sale of Lace Curtains, Muslin and Lace Window Furnishings, Lace Bed Sets and Portieres.

Renaissance Lace Curtains. Various designs....5.00, 7.50 and 9.75 per pair
former prices 7.25, 10.50 and 14.50

About 1,500 pieces of Muslin and Lace. An extensive variety. Suitable for window furnishings.

Tambour embroidered Muslin. 12c, 15c and 25c per yard
values 20c, 25c and 40c

Tambour Lace, 40c and 75c per yard
value 65c and 1.35

Irish Point Vestibule Lace. 30 inches wide, 28c, 40c and 60c per yard
values 50c, 75c and 1.00

Lace Bed Sets with deep valance. Sets complete. All sizes,

3.00, 5.00 and 7.00 per set
former prices 4.00, 6.50 and 9.50

200 pairs Portiers,—reversible Armure and fine Tapestry. An extensive variety of colors and designs,

4.75, 6.75 and 9.75 per pair
former prices 7.00, 10.00 and 13.50

FURNITURE. In Both Stores.

Semi-Annual Sale Continued
Craftsman and Quaint Mission Furniture.

A complete collection, including numerous odd and unusual pieces. Many models that cannot be duplicated at about one-half usual prices.

Chairs and Rockers, 3.25 and 4.50
Arm Chairs and Rockers.....6.50
Large Roomy Arm Chairs and Rockers.....7.50

Morris Chairs, with loose cushions, 19.50

Sideboards.....25.00

Bookcases.....18.50

Settles.....25.00

Entire Dining Room, Living Room and Bedroom Suites, Chests, Costumers, tea and lunch Tables. Considerably reduced.

JAMES McGREERY & CO.

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ROTHENBERG AND CO.

ASTOUNDING UNDERPRICE CLEARANCE OF Women's Coats

On account of the sensationally low price we must limit 1 coat to a customer—additionally none to dealers

\$9 BLACK THIBET COATS, with fur-trimmed shawl collar of lynx, HEAVY BLACK CHEVY, HOT COATS, inlaid velvet collars, braid trimmed, TOURIST COATS, of handsome worsted; worth as high as \$8 and \$9; your choice, while they last, to-morrow, at

2.98



ANY ONE OF THESE COATS TUESDAY AT \$2.98.

An impressively Interesting, Honest Bargain Sale of Girls' Long Coats Positively offered at less than cost of material—On Sale To-Morrow at \$1.39 let alone the making.

THE COATS are made of good, warm cheviot, with storm collar and deep reverse cuffs, both of gray kimmer; full box back, deep cloth facing; patch pockets; choice of blue, red, green, black or brown (only 2 to a customer and none C. O. D.), each... 1.39

Silverware at 1/3 Regular

You Save 66 2/3%.

BUTTER DISHES AND CRACKERS, JARS, worth \$1.25, for this sale, 49c

ROGERS' GRAY LADIES, GOLD MEAT FORK, SILVER SPOONS, ICE KNIVES, ICE CREAM KNIVES AND CRUMB SCRAPPERS; beautiful designs, values up to \$1.00, for this sale, 29c



You Save 66 2/3%.

ROGERS' DESSERT SPOONS, beautiful designs, discontinued patterns; values up to \$1.10, for this sale, one-half dozen, 49c

SOUP LADLES, beautiful designs, put up in cases; value 1.25, marked down to, 79c

Women! Drop Everything and Come for These Blanket & Domestic Bargains

MILL REMNANTS OF BLEACHED, MERCERIZED TOWELING, 2 to 3 yard lengths, yard, 29c

2-1/2 INCH SANITARY DIAPER, 2 to 10 yards, yard, 69c

MILL REMNANTS OF UNBLEACHED SHEETING, 2 to 10 yards, yard, 53c

GOOD QUALITY PILLOW CASES, 2 to 10 yards, yard, 93c

GOOD QUALITY SHEETS, size 72x90, seamed, 11 1/2 to 4 yards, yard, 39c

1-1/2 INCH HEAVY FLEECE BLANKETS, pink or blue bordered, 2 to 10 yards, yard, 89c

ENGLA HEAVY WOOL BLANKETS, for full size beds, 2 to 10 yards, yard, \$3.98

50c. CROCHET RED SPREADS, each, 49c

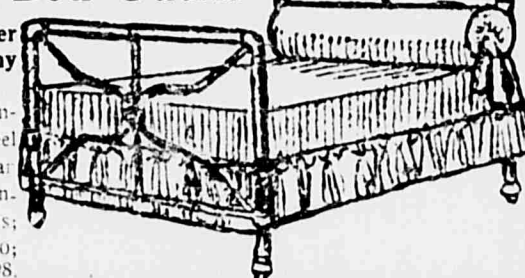
WHITE PIQUE in narrow and wide cords; value 19c, a yd., 12 1/2c

MILL REMNANT LININGS—5,000 yards of silk finished dress linings, 36 inches wide; worth up to 29c, yard; 2 to 10 yd. lengths, 10c

\$6.98 for This \$12 Bed Outfit

The greatest value ever offered anytime by any one.

3-piece bed outfit, consisting of a heavy steel bed, like illustration, an all-steel spring and a sanitary wool top mattress; value complete, \$12.00; sale price, all sizes, \$6.98



Tuesday's Great Special

In 9 ft. x 6 ft. RUGS

Beautiful \$8.00 Khorassan Smyrna Rugs at \$3.98 Each

Size 9 ft. x 6 ft.; shown in colors and designs that lower only be found in the real Oriental rugs; perfectly reversible; regularly selling in carpet stores at \$8.00; extra special to-morrow, 3.98

Seamless French Axminster Rugs, 50 rugs in all—and all woven in one piece; size 10 ft. x 12 ft.; shown in 3 beautiful parlor designs; \$20 value; to close this lot out to-morrow we have reduced them all to, 13.75

On Sale Tuesday Only

Parquet Floor Oilcloth

Just 750 yds.—actually 35c; a special purchase (none by mail or C. O. D.), at, per square yard, 19c

Remnants of \$1.25 Inlaid Linoleum, at 39c

Immense variety of patterns, in parquet floor and mottled effects; colors go straight through to back. Value \$1.25, at per square yard, 39c

Important Reduction Sale of No. 7 Coal Ranges

Offering our Special No. 7 Coal Range, formerly priced at \$15.98, now at \$11.98—5-hole top, on feet, with top end shelf, clean-out door in front and clean-out plate in oven bottom; size of oven, 15x15 1/2. It is our perfect cooker and bakes, and is worth \$15.98..... \$11.98



Gas Stove Ovens Made of heavy Russia iron, has 2 shelves, special at..... 59c

\$1.49 Gas Stoves, 98c

Extra strong, with wide tops, cleanable burners; value \$1.49; to-morrow at, 98c

WASHBOARDS, double zinc face and double chrome; will not rust; special at..... 29c

iron; regular price 69c; special to-morrow, only 29c

A Double Victory For The World!

The WORLD not only printed 292,747 more separate Advertisements last year than the Herald, but it was the ONLY New York newspaper to show a GAIN in this respect over the previous year.

Every Other N. Y. Newspaper Loses.

LORD CURZON WINS.

DUBLIN, Jan. 20.—Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, ex-Viceroy of India, to-day received a majority of the votes cast in the election to fill the vacancy among the Peers of Ireland caused by the death last November of Lord Kilmaine.

NOT A PIRATED EDITION.

The Famous Wally (consisting of eight music pages from "The Merry Widow") will be given in the Magazine Section of NEXT SUNDAY'S WORLD, January 26. This music, consisting of 26 staves, is the only authorized copyrighted edition, and is issued as a newspaper supplement exclusively through The World by special arrangement with the music publishers, Chappell & Co., Ltd., London and New York. Any earlier issues of this music by a newspaper are PIRATED and incomplete. Get the REAL music of the Merry Widow Wally in The World next Sunday.

*Mary lost a little lamb
(The lamb was quite a rouser)
But she has had been gone a day
A World Want Lost Ad.
Journal here.*